

PROCLAMATION STUDENT LOAN AWARENESS MONTH APRIL 2004

WHEREAS, the citizens of North Dakota place a very high value on education, and millions of dollars are invested to advance the skills, knowledge and productivity of our human capital, a major product of which the state can be proud; and

WHEREAS, Student Loans of North Dakota and lending institutions throughout the state provide a variety of opportunities for North Dakota citizens to finance post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, the cooperative efforts between Student Loans of North Dakota, student loan borrowers, colleges and lending institutions contribute to North Dakota's high ranking in student loan repayment; and

WHEREAS, in-depth training of employees, loan counseling and debt management information are essential to North Dakota maintaining the lowest student loan default rate in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Student Loans of North Dakota and student loan borrowers, colleges and lending institutions of North Dakota should be recognized for their efforts to prevent student loan defaults; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2004, **STUDENT LOAN AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State